

# West Haven Voice

September 5, 2024

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West Haven's only independent news source  
*By and For West Haven*

## Voice Feature

*An in-depth feature*

**Paulie's Push  
passes through city**

**See page 16**



## Special Olympics bocce tournament returning to shore

Special Olympics Connecticut has announced the return of its annual Unified Sports Fall Festival, presented by Mohegan Sun, along with its Fall Festival bocce competition to the city's Old Grove Park bocce courts Sept. 14-15. It harkens back to the city being a host site during the Special Olympics World Games in 1995.

"The Fall Festival will be a celebration of inclusion and athletic excellence and bring together hundreds of athletes of all abilities and their Unified Sports teammates from across the state," said Debbie Horne, Special Olympics Connecticut's senior director of communications and marketing.

On both days in West Haven, the opening ceremony will start at 9 a.m. and the bocce competition at 9:30 a.m. in Old Grove Park, 1 Palace St.

"I am beyond excited to bring back home and host the Special Olympics Connecticut bocce competition in West Haven, the venue where it all started in July 1995 when the city hosted the Special Olympics World Games bocce competition," Mayor Dorinda Borer said. "This is a full-circle moment for our city, and I encourage all residents to attend and cheer on these amazing athletes."

The city last hosted the bocce competition nine years ago. The courts were donated and constructed by Special Olympics Connecticut in 1995.

The Unified Sports Fall Festival is open to the public and free to attend. Spectators are strongly encouraged to come out and cheer on athletes, Horne said.

In addition to the bocce competition in West Haven, sailing will take place at The Wadawanuck Club in Stonington, softball at the Pratt & Whitney Aircraft Club in East Hartford and golf at Sleeping Giant Golf Course in Hamden on Sept. 14-15.

Then, on Sept. 28-29, the croquet competition will take place at the Ocean House in Rhode Island.

For more information, visit <https://www.soct.org/>, email [specialolympicsct@soct.org](mailto:specialolympicsct@soct.org) or call 203-230-1201. Also, follow Special Olympics Connecticut on Instagram, Facebook, X and LinkedIn.

In between their games, participants at the Fall Festival softball venue will have an opportunity to take part in health activities, including oral health education offered by volunteers from the University of Connecticut School of Dental Medicine and performance stations.

Performance stations aim to promote athletes' well-being and competition readiness. Both activities are made possible through the Special Olympics Healthy Athletes program.

In addition to presenting sponsor Mohegan Sun, sponsors of the Unified Sports Fall Festival include: the Nicholas and Karen  
**See Bocce, page 8**



Photos by Michael O'Brien

## *New school year!*

Summer vacation came to a sudden but expected end last week as the 2024-2025 school year officially began, Aug. 28. All the city's schools opened with full-day schedules, and it was back to work. These show scenes from Carrigan, Mackrille and Forest schools.

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Nova Wright, age 1, a West Haven Child Development Center, Inc. student, is predicting sunny and cooler weather for the start of the new school year.



### Premiere concert

Local artist Jason Heffernan performs Sunday at the Park and Rec-sponsored 1st Sunday Acoustic Performance Series last weekend.

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### On this Date

1977 -- Voyager 1 probe is launched. NASA launched the Voyager 1 probe from Florida. It is currently the farthest man-made object in Space.

1972 -- Massacre at the Munich Olympics. A group of Palestinian militants stormed the apartment Israeli athletes were staying at the Olympic Village in Munich, Germany several days after the XX Olympic Summer Games had begun. They killed 2 athletes and took 9 hostages, demanding the release of release over 230 Arab prisoners being held in Israel. The ensuing violence to release the hostages ended with the death of all 9 hostages and 5 militants.

1944 -- Benelux is Formed. The political and economic union consists of 3 countries - Belgium, Netherlands, and Luxemburg. The name comes from joining the first 2 letters, 3 in the case of Luxemburg of the member countries.

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Next Issue Date:  
September 19, 2024

# City to remember attacks on Sept. 11

By Michael P. Walsh  
*Special to the Voice*

West Haven will observe the 23rd anniversary of the Sept. 11 attacks on 9/11 with a flag-raising ceremony at 6:30 p.m. at the Bradley Point Park flagpole, followed by a candlelight vigil at the city's 9/11 memorial.

The solemn service will begin with a presentation of the colors by the West Haven Police Honor Guard and the flag-raising by the West Haven Fire

Department Honor Guard and the New Haven County Firefighters Emerald Society Pipes & Drums.

The flag-raising will honor the memory of the nearly 3,000 people who died in the attacks. Remarks by dignitaries, including Mayor Dorinda Borer, will follow.

Rick Spreyer, Borer's chief of staff, will serve as the master of ceremonies, and a West Haven High School student will sing the national anthem

and "God Bless America."

At 7 p.m., the candlelight vigil will take place at the Richard S. Gabrielle Sept. 11 Memorial on the boardwalk next to the former Savin Rock Conference Center, 6 Rock St.

Members of the West Haven Rotary Club will distribute candles and programs at the granite monument, which was paid for by the service club in 2002. It was designed by Harold J. Schaller of H.K. Peacock Memorials Inc. in Valhalla,

New York.

Gabrielle, 50, of West Haven, was killed during the attack on the twin towers in New York's World Trade Center complex. An insurance broker at Aon Corp., he was last seen on the south tower's 78th floor.

Declared Patriot Day by Congress in 2002, the city will

fly flags at half-staff in recognition.

The vigil will feature taps played by retired West Shore Fire Department Lt. Kevin McKeon and Celtic folk performances by Irish singer-songwriter Liz McNicholl, including "The Bravest," a tribute to the heroes of 9/11.



File photo by Andrew Sacco

In this Sept. 11, 2021, file photo, the sun rises over Savin Rock as hundreds of American flags blow in the wind near the boardwalk on Long Island Sound. The flags represent the 343 New York City firefighters who died in the line of duty on Sept. 11, 2001, as well as the 257 active and retired FDNY members who have died of 9/11-related illnesses, including cancer.

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POWER ON

# Dear Felicia

Labor Day! Like a thief in the night, it just snuck up on us, dearie! It jest seems like yesterday we were talking about it being June 1 and all the summer to look forward to. Well, the summer flew by, jest ask the kiddies who trooped back to classes last week. Whilst the calendar tells us there are two weeks of summer left, everything else is telling us things are getting back to normal. Tempus does in fact fugit.

Here in the Asylum by the Sea, things are finding their normalcy. With schools in session the measured way time is spent will be perty much the way things are until next summer. Like I said in a previous missive, honeybunch, it's amazing how our lives are dictated by the academic year.

Effen you haven't hoid, the people in the Oxford and Seymour area really got hit with thunderstorms a few weeks back and are still picking up the pieces. We had those storms, but not with the fury they did. We had an inch or two of rain in a short time, but not like those poor people. 'Twas quite something, and marked the end of another hot, humid spell we had.

Funny thing that! Overall, the summer wasn't all that bad, but we had about three or four spells of very hot and humid weather like we ain't seen

in these parts in a while. Then storms would come through, and, we hoped would cool things off. Tennyrate, jest thank Goodness we didn't git what those people did. We would have homes floating in the Soung.

Sammy Bluejay came by t'other day, and we were discussing the move by the city to give a tax break to the new restaurant, called Riva, we see in the local papyrus. The deal was passed by the City Council, and hailed as a way to show that the city is becoming more business friendly. We hope so.

The way we git the picture is the assessment on the property will be made and over five years the tax obligation starts as 20 percent of the assessment and goes up 20 percent each year until the business is on solid ground.

There are good and bad things about these kinds of deals, and it does set a precedent fer other businesses coming in. Sammy was quick to pernt out that beggars can't be choosers. We in our little corner of the universe have been trying to expand the tax rolls for decades with not much to show for it. Whilst giving tax breaks to businesses is not looked at kindly by some, we don't have much of a choice.

Even 20 percent of some-

thing is better than nothing, and right now, we git close to nothing. This developer built the condos that are perched on the corner of Morse Avenue and Beach Street, and put that area back on the tax rolls, so I guess we should play along. Herroner and the administration are playing what they call in some circles "the long game," and hoping that putting deals like this together will have an impack toward spurring new growth.

We've had spotty results over the years – not much has happened along the West River corridor, for example with those deals. But, like Sammy sez, we don't have a whole lot to bank on besides our new logo and legend. "Miles of shore and a whole lot more." Frankly, we have the shore, it's the "more" we hafta work on.

We'll see how this works. Playing the "long game" might be the answer we've been looking for. Nothin' ventured, nothin' gained.

Smyy had one final thought over there. The former Debonair Motel is said to be up for adevelopment and there seems to be talk of something being built. At least we've hoid of some negotiations going on. I mentioned this to you a month or so ago. There were some plans that were

discussed, but no movement has been made. The "talking stages" they call it.

With this tax deal, one wonders effen the "talk" about the Debonair will morph into some type of concrete proposal. One can only hope!

Cobina was out in her gassamobuggy last week and effen yew didn't know schools were open, you'd git a perty good notion that way. The morning traffic, which for the last several weeks has been free flowing was jammed up again in all the usual locations. It's amazing what a few school buses will do to morning traffic. Kelsey Avenue-Main Street-Wagner Place intersection is a perfect example.

Traffic there is snarled because the lights aren't synced and jest when yew git through the intersection going toward Sawmill Road, the light turns red, and the back up begins. Yew git past that and the snarls behind yew back up again. Rince and repeat.

And I hafta tell yew the bus drivers have to have the patience of Job. Not only do some o' the drivers try to whiz by the yellow birds, but there have been some drivers cutting off the buses. Of course, sometimes the drivers git confused cua the yellow flashers go off, and one doesn't know what one should do.

Still, I wouldn't wanna be one o' those drivers for all the tea in China – or anywhere else.

Jest cuz we're privy to some of the things that come outta the Actors Colony on Main Street, we see that Stiles School is going through another round of RFPs (request for proposal). That school was closed about 20 years ago, and used as an adjunct fer a while for Alternate School programs, but it has since just stood there with nary a developer lookin' closely at it.

There was a chance a few years ago that someone was gonna take it, and change it into apartments or something like that, but the development never developed, so to speak. It went from the "talking stages" to nothing.

It's a stately building and we hafta say hat for the most part it's kept up perty well. One hopes that something can be done over there. One wonders effen the building will stay, or a decision will be made to raze the structure and start again. One never knows.

Glad to see the city is letting people know when the next round of bulk trash is. Some residents have jumped the gun and are already putting things out on the street. They don't git picked up and they leave them on the street. Sometimes somebody will come around with a truck and cart it way – a junk dealer one suspecks

– but most of the time it's jest left to the elements.

One of the problems in the burg for the last little while has been renter who jest don't care. Trash is left out even after it's obvious things aren't gonna be picked up. Laying out there for one week should be a clue. Two weeks? Now yore jest being a slob.

I hafta say while I was somewhat surprised by the announcement a couple weeks back that Steve Mullins left the local GOP, looking back, it was gonna happen. The local party has been split into factions, much like the Demmies. The only difference is the GOP factions are fighting over a carcass that has been picked clean. The last time the GOP had any power in this town was when Bush '41 was in the White House.

It's not good to have a one-party town as we've seen in the last few years. The only political battles are between factions of the Demmies. The GOP has factions, but no power.

Iyam sure there is more to the story than what is being told – there usually is. But what the "inside baseball" problem is is just that, inside baseball. Nobody cares. We've hoped the GOP would have some of the influence it had back in the 70s, and 80s, when it gave the Demmies a run for their money. But since 1991, the party has been a mess.

Until the GOP can put itself in a position to be an alternative to what is there politically, it's gonna stay on the business end of a losing proposition.

It's too bad, we member what it was, and it has fallen into something that one wonders effen it could ever be repaired.

Endin' on a positie note, the Sandy Point Association, we see, was honored for its work with the parks and public areas in the Sandy Point area.

The people over there take care of the land that is near the Second AvenueBeach Street intersection as well as the parking area and land near the Point itself.

They are quite organized, and are interested not only in the cleanliness of the area, but the bird sanctuaries that are near.

It's perty organized, having quite an active board and membership

The SPA is a model for an other neighborhood group, and can be emulated in other areas of the city. We'd have quite the burg effen neighborhoods had active organizations like this -- not an HOA, but one jest interested in the area occupied.

With that bit o' chatter, I'll close tmitt luff und kizzez,

Cobina

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Dear Eleanore Turkington:

“Why are people at the senior center so bored? Not many people come there. There is supposed to be stuff to do here. Also, why do you come in for lunch and there is a limit?”

There is not enough napkins, milk and the coffee runs out before lunch. Bathrooms are dirty and tiles on the floor are broken. There are also not enough chairs in the lobby”

*Unhappy Senior Citizen*

Dear Unhappy:

I sent a copy of your letter to Mayor Dorinda Borer and she responded promptly with the following response to your complaints:

Dear Eleanore Turkington:

I’m sorry to hear some of the seniors are bored as I know Alyssa, our director, is working hard to provide social and entertaining activity.

We want our seniors to have



**ELEANORE TURKINGTON**

a robust socialization as we know isolation is detrimental to anyone’s health and seniors are more susceptible to isolation. Having said that, we do have some good updates.

A few weeks ago, we announced that in 2025 we will

be moving our Senior Center over to Meloy School. This will provide more spacing for better access which will not only open up to more seniors but will give the spacing we need for better equipment and activity.

We also just brought in a brand-new Bingo Machine last week which is something requested to me when I visited in June.

We are working to bring

back more recreational activities, and I put in a position in the budget to help with that. Currently that position is being recruited for.

I’ll speak to the center for napkins, milk and coffee runs this week.

We also had a request for a new ice machine which is also in the works.

It really is our goal to make for a great experience for our seniors and we will

continually work on this.

*Dorinda Borer*

**Mayor City of West Haven.**

Readers, if you have any other suggestions or requested improvements at the senior center send them to Gripe Vine 840 Boston Post Road, West Haven or email them to me at gripevineatwh@yahoo.com Please include your name, address and phone number or email address kept in strict confidence with me.

## Purple lighting marked Overdose Awareness

By Michael P. Walsh  
Special to the Voice

The city marked International Overdose Awareness Day on Saturday by lighting the windows and steps of City Hall in purple.

“Overdose awareness is an important public health observance, not just today but every day,” Mayor Dorinda Borer said. “We are observing International Overdose Awareness Day because we want to bring attention to the challenges of this growing epidemic.

“We also want to let our residents know that we are aware of the problem, we are here to provide available resources, and we are committed to working with partners across the city to address this crisis.”

International Overdose Awareness Day, Aug. 31, is the world’s largest annual campaign to end overdose, to remember without stigma those who have died, and to acknowledge the grief of family and friends left behind.

To raise awareness in West Haven, purple battery-operated candles illuminated the windows and steps of City Hall.

Purple is the color of overdose awareness, an international effort to call attention to the epidemic.

To increase overdose awareness, Health Director Maureen B. Lillis said the West Haven Health Department will launch a promotional campaign in September. The monthlong campaign will feature a new webpage dedicated to opioids and overdose awareness that includes education and resources for treatment, mental health and Narcan, along with a calendar of related activities throughout the year, she said.

Lillis said the department’s public health team will spend the month providing education and awareness, including pop-up events that distribute fentanyl test strips and pill deactivation packets. The test strips can detect fentanyl in liquids, powders and pills, she said.

Lillis said the department will use its portion of opioid settlement money to fund the awareness campaign and to help stem opioid addiction in West Haven. The money is part of a nationwide settlement reached with drugmakers and pharmaceutical companies for their roles in the national opioid crisis.

Fentanyl is an opioid painkiller many times more powerful than heroin and is typically prescribed to treat severe pain. It now frequently appears as an illegal street drug mixed with other substances, such as heroin, metonitazene or para-fluorofentanyl, the latter of which is sometimes known as China white.

Experts say the growing prevalence of fentanyl in the illicit drug supply is a top driver of the increasing number of overdose deaths in the U.S.

The city’s Health Department and Office of Emergency Management and Homeland Security are working with churches  
**See Awremess. page 8**

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## The tyranny of majority

In our last edition, we offered the idea that Civics should be reintroduced in schools, and not just once. At one time there was a state requirement that Civics be taught to school children, particularly in high schools during the sophomore year. We should go back to that.

Now that the 2024 Presidential campaign is in full swing, the amount of misunderstanding about how our Constitution was composed – through much compromise and negotiation – is quite alarming. Especially among so-called “progressives” the mantra seems to be “majority rule above all else.” What they do not know, or do not care to know is the Founders were justifiably afraid of rule by the majority and sought a balance.

It must be remembered the Founders were under a parliamentary system in which the majority party had full rein of policy. We see that today in the United Kingdom, where the Labour Party is now in power and attempting to curb free speech and free expression.

Smaller states, like Connecticut, were wary of the power of the big states always getting their way under the new Constitution, much like the parliamentary system. Things like the bicameral legislature, the House and Senate, were a check on that power. Each state got the same number of senators, regardless of population.

Another example is the Electoral College, where not one election but one in each state determined the winner, with the number of electoral votes based on the number of representative districts and the two senators for each state. Each candidate has electors, and those electors vote for the candidate.

Modern-day progressives, particularly Democrats, have derided the concept as ‘undemocratic’ but forget we are not a democracy, but a representative republic that is based on balanced representation and not 51 percent rule. The tyranny of the majority was and is a detriment to the common good.

But it goes beyond the legislative branch or modes of electing presidents. Progressives over the last century have fostered the idea of bureaucratic rule. Indeed, beginning with Wilson and the income tax and fostered by FDR and his alphabet soup of agencies, the federal government continues to grow. This has fostered the institution of a fourth branch of government, which has usurped legislative prerogative under the aegis of the Executive Branch. Thankfully, the recent Raimondo decision by the Supreme Court will dismantle the judge, jury, and executioner roles that many federal agencies (particularly the EPA) have assumed.

The point is, the Constitution was derived under the idea that federal power should be limited, not expanded. Progressives want it the other way, looking for more power coming under the federal umbrella.

A return to teaching the Constitution and the discussions of the Constitutional Convention in an even-handed way will allow citizens to recapture the mindset of the times without the all-to-facile “white supremacist” label. That type of nonsense has no place in real education, but that is the opinion of another editorial.

Citizens must understand the workings of the government and the limits imposed. Recent events have shown an alarming lack of understanding, and, quite frankly, an ignorance of history.

The need for limited government is showing itself daily. Our Founders knew the dangers. Do we?



## The ‘price gouging’ walk-back

By Rich Lowry  
*Syndicated Columnist*  
Never mind.

If you thought cracking down on price gouging was a key element of the Kamala Harris economic program -- because she said as much in her economic speech a couple of weeks ago -- it turns out you were mistaken.

Harris merely wanted people to know how seriously she takes escalating prices at the grocery store. It was only a minor suggestion -- trifling, really -- to replicate the small-scale anti-price gouging laws seen at the state level.

Regardless, we all know that there will never be the votes to pass it through Congress. In short, nothing to see here. Can't we get back to feeling “the joy”? Insert funny and clickable coconut meme here.

This is basically what Democrat insiders have been saying about a Harris policy proposal that has gotten the most attention of any of her month-long campaign.

As Politico put it: “Under pressure to defend Kamala Harris’ grocery price gouging plan, some Democratic lawmakers are delivering a quiet message to anxious allies: Don’t worry about the details. It’s never going to pass Congress.”

The Washington Post notes that Harris allies “are arguing both publicly and privately that her plans have been taken

out of context.”

That Harris has reversed field on so much of what she said during her ill-fated primary campaign and its aftermath suggests that she wasn’t very good at policy in 2019 and 2020. The walk-back on price gouging suggests that she isn’t very good at it in 2024, either.

In her speech, Harris said: “So, believe me, as president, I will go after the bad actors. And I will work to pass the first-ever federal ban on price gouging on food. My plan will include new penalties for opportunistic companies that exploit crises and break the rules.”

Sounds dramatic, right? The “believe me” is a particularly nice touch given how her supporters would immediately be saying, in effect, that she shouldn’t be believed.

The premise of the proposal was always ridiculous. The idea that food companies and grocery stores suddenly began to gouge consumers at the moment when supply-chain disruptions, excessive government spending, low interest rates and international disorder drove a historic bout of inflation never made any sense.

If they had this kind of market power, they presumably would have exercised it in the decades prior to Joe Biden presiding over a period of runaway prices.

It was equally absurd to pretend that the government

could make illegal this non-existent problem. If the Federal Trade Commission, the potential vehicle for ending all the alleged price gouging, can magically end inflation, why didn’t the Biden administration use it for this purpose when prices were rapidly accelerating?

Needless to say, no one should have any confidence that the FTC knows what the price of eggs or paper towels should be.

The minimalist gloss on the Harris proposal is that it is, in the words of The Post, “a targeted expansion of existing state powers rather than new government ‘price controls’ that would transform the U.S. economy.”

These state laws are designed to prevent exploitative pricing in the midst of disasters. It’s not clear why the federal government itself needs a statute banning people from, say, charging exorbitant amounts for bottled water after hurricanes, or how such a statute would prevent economy-wide inflation.

This back-filling and explaining away wouldn’t be necessary if Harris hadn’t spoken in such sweeping terms about a new federal power to control prices. And she didn’t do it spontaneously, but reading from a script prepared by advisers who presumably gave it some thought.

See Lowry, page 7

# Are self-driving cars ready for prime time?

By Bill DeVries

A slew of recent announcements suggests that the self-driving cars of the future have arrived. Google sibling Waymo is rolling out paid autonomous taxi rides in San Francisco and Los Angeles. Elon Musk announced plans to unveil Tesla's robotaxi this October.

This momentum is enough to make city planners hopeful for an imminent transformation. But widespread adoption of autonomous vehicles could be a long time coming. Before self-driving cars can live up to their potential, we need major changes to our physical infrastructure, laws, and the way we think.

Currently, the United States sees about 40,000 traffic fatalities a year, mostly due to human error. Transportation emits more greenhouse gasses than any other sector, and traffic jams cost drivers countless hours.

Autonomous vehicles paired with well-designed roads can help solve these problems. But to achieve full effectiveness, cities need to incorporate sensor-enabled "smart roads." These can be dedicated lanes for autonomous vehicles that synchronize their movements and provide information about potential obstacles. Getting those roads built is just one challenge among many.

For autonomous vehicles to be widely accepted, they need to protect passengers more effectively than human-driven

cars. That requires the vehicle's software to be trained on every possible situation it could encounter.

You can supply self-driving cars with this information through test driving, which is what most autonomous vehicle companies do now -- they drive around sensor-equipped cars to map streets and learn how to detect objects. But this takes a long time -- by one researcher's estimate, autonomous vehicles would need to log 8.8 billion miles to acquire all the necessary information.

The alternative is to use visual simulation. Based on real-world data, this technology models a physical streetscape and produces a virtual copy, known as a "digital twin." Simulations also allow companies to test dangerous scenarios like icy roads and collisions.

Let's not forget the challenge of manufacturing the cars themselves at scale. Since they use new and complex technological systems, they require a more sophisticated design and production approach. Virtual models and simulations help ensure these technologies work properly before building expensive prototypes.

Solutions to other challenges may be slower to coalesce.

The lack of appropriate regulations could slow adoption of autonomous vehicles. Right now, there are no federal rules governing this market. That might sound like a good thing. But in the absence of federal rules, companies will be left

with a patchwork of conflicting state laws. This lack of consistency will create challenges for manufacturers and could undermine public trust, slowing down the adoption of self-driving cars.

Perhaps the greatest challenge will be arriving at a shared set of ethics. Autonomous vehicles may not fall asleep at the wheel, but there will still be accidents, forcing regulators to rethink the human-car relationship. Which party bears the blame when

an autonomous vehicle is involved in a collision: the car manufacturer, the software maker, or the person in the vehicle?

If that problem weren't thorny enough, there's the question of how autonomous vehicles should behave when a collision becomes unavoidable. Customers want a vehicle that defends its passengers. Yet cars that prioritize the lives of their riders result in more total fatalities, studies show. Which set of machine

behaviors should manufacturers install?

Autonomous vehicles can deliver safer roads, greater mobility, and a more sustainable and equitable transportation system. But it won't do any of those things unless we address these challenges head-on.

Bill DeVries is the vice president of North America customer solution experiences at Dassault Systèmes. This piece originally ran at Futurride.com.



## Awareness: *City focuses on problem of overdoses*

Continued from page 5

and agencies to schedule training for Narcan, a brand name for a device that delivers the opioid-overdose antidote naloxone.

Lillis said anyone who completes the training will receive a Narcan emergency overdose kit, which contains two 4-milligram nasal sprays.

Emergency Management Director Rick Fontana has been installing the grant-funded kits in many municipal buildings and public places around West Haven.

Lillis said the Yale Community Health Care Van, a mobile medical clinic that offers harm reduction services, will also support the city's awareness campaign by parking at the West Haven Emergency Assistance Task Force food pantry at least once a month to service people in need.

WHEAT, based at 674 Washington Ave., provides food for residents in need.

## Lowry: *About gouging...*

Continued from page 6

What we are now being told was a way to convince people how much Harris cares about fighting inflation really shows how little she cares about what she says and what she proposes.

Her allies are making what's ultimately a damning defense -- don't mind her, she's just trying to say things that sound good.

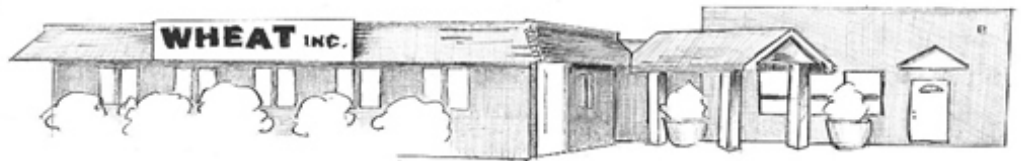
*Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.*

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### Correction

In the last edition on Steven Mullins leaving the party. We errantly named Paige Weinstein's husband as "Steve." It is Andrew.

Mullins dropped out of the primary, and Paige Weinstein was second, not third as reported.



**WHEAT is now open Mondays too.**

Our pantry is open:

Monday - 5:00-7:00 pm

Tuesday, Wednesday, & Thursday - 2:00-4:30 pm.

All CT residents are welcome, no appointment needed. Photo IDs and proof of address are not required. Visitors can come once a month to receive food and should bring their own grocery bags if possible.

WHEAT is looking for dedicated and compassionate volunteers to work Monday evenings in our pantry! If interested, please contact Volunteer Coordinator, Fiona Pare, at [fp@wheatpantry.org](mailto:fp@wheatpantry.org).

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# Next Bulk Trash week is Sept. 16-20

By Michael P. Walsh  
Special to the Voice

The final bulk trash pickup week of 2024 is Sept. 16-20.

West Haven residents are reminded to separate metals, recyclables and regular trash from bulk trash and put them out no more than 24 hours before pickup. Violations carry a \$100 fine per daily offense, acting Public Works Commissioner Robert Sandella said.

Residents are also reminded to "Put a Lid on It!" and use lids on all trash cans. Rain-soaked trash costs West Haven 10 times more at the dump, according to Sandella, adding that using trash can lids will save the city money by reducing the weight of trash and cost of tipping fees.

Bulk items include couches, chairs, tables, carpeting, padding and fencing, which may not exceed 6 feet in length. No building materials, tires, mattresses, propane tanks or hazardous waste are accepted.

Options for disposing of building materials include renting a dumpster or bringing the materials to a disposal facility for a fee.

Tires and mattresses are not considered bulk trash and will not be collected.

Tires can be brought to Town Fair Tire, 63 Boston Post Road, Orange, for a fee of

\$3.75 per tire.

To dispose of mattresses, residents must buy mattress bags from the Department of Public Works and put them out for pickup on their weekly curbside collection day through Nov. 1. Mattress pickup will resume June 1, 2025. Mattress bags cost \$30 for the first one and \$20 each after that. They are payable by cash and available in the public works office on the third floor of City Hall, 355 Main St.

Hazardous waste can be dropped off for free at HazWaste Central, 90 Sargent Drive, New Haven. HazWaste is open Saturday mornings through October.

Propane tanks can be brought to Taylor Rental, 304 Boston Post Road, Orange, for a fee of \$10.60 per tank.

The amount of bulk trash per collection is limited to 6 cubic yards, which is equal to a pile of trash about 6 feet long, 6 feet wide and 4.5 feet high.

Homeowners are required to rent a dumpster or hire a junk removal service at their expense if trash exceeds 6 cubic yards. Otherwise, trash exceeding 6 cubic yards will be left at the curb, and a \$100 fine per daily offense will be imposed, Sandella said.

To prevent a potential fine,

property owners should familiarize themselves with the city's trash guidelines at <https://www.cityofwesthaven.com/260/Bulk-Trash-Pickup-Other-Services>.

Bulk trash must be generated by the customer at the residential unit where it is collected.

Trash will not be collected if it is generated by anyone other than the resident of the home.

Bulk items must be separated and orderly. Do not place them next to a mailbox or utility pole or close to a fence, Sandella said.

Also, do not place bulk items in front of a vacant lot or home — they will not be collected, he said.

In addition to bulk trash, the city picks up metals, including household appliances, also known as white goods, and toilets. To schedule a pickup on their curbside collection day, residents must call the Highway Department at 203-937-3644 or 203-937-3585. Appliance doors must be removed.

Leaf bags are picked up through Dec. 13. The bags are picked up on residents' weekly collection days. Leaves and grass clippings must be in separate biodegradable paper bags and will not be accepted if they are in plastic bags.

The city also picks up brush that is cut into 3-to-6-foot lengths and tied in small bundles, no more than 70 pounds. Logs and stumps are prohibited.

Residents can bring grass clippings as well as bagged leaves and untied brush to the compost site, 1 Kimberly Ave., from 7:30 a.m.-2 p.m. weekdays and 7:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Saturdays. The first cubic yard of compost is free with proof of residence. Additional compost costs \$25 per cubic yard. Residents must bring buckets and shovels.

Prior to picking up compost, residents must make a cash payment in the public works office on the third floor of City Hall. No credit cards or personal checks are accepted.

For electronic items, including TVs, the final e-waste drop-off day of the year is Sept. 28.

Residents can drop off electronic recyclables — typically anything that contains a circuit board or needs a battery — from 8 a.m.-noon at the city garage, 1 Collis St.

West Haven is partnering with Take 2 Inc. of Waterbury, a state-approved recycler and collector of universal e-waste devices, to collect residential electronic items on a quarterly basis.

The collection is free for residents who have such items as computers, monitors, printers, keyboards, modems, com-

puter mice, tablet computers, TVs, VCRs, DVD players, photocopiers, fax machines, scanners, video game machines, digital media players, personal digital assistants, stereo equipment, telephones, cell-phones, cameras, microwaves and other small appliances.

Anything that has refrigerant, including air conditioners and dehumidifiers, is not accepted.

Those items are considered white goods, and residents are asked to schedule a pickup on their curbside collection day by calling the Highway Department.

For details, go to <https://www.cityofwesthaven.com/263/E-waste-Drop-off>.

For the e-waste drop-off, residents are asked to heed the following guidelines:

- ~~ Stay in your vehicle.
- ~~ Vehicles will be spaced out. Event workers will remove electronics from your vehicle. There should be no interaction between residents and workers.

- ~~ No mattresses or box springs will be disposed of at the moment.

- ~~ No smoke detectors, ballasts or hazardous waste — lighter fluid, liquids, paint — will be accepted.

- ~~ Electronic items left curbside will be tagged with information on the e-waste schedule and must be removed, or face a potential fine.

## Bocce: *Tourney returns*

Continued from page 1

Zoccoli Family, diamond sponsor; Steven J. Suzio Memorial Golf Tournament, gold sponsor; Feroletto Steel Co., KBE Foundation, Nirenstein, Horowitz & Associates PC, PGA-Connecticut Section, and the Singer Family, bronze sponsors; Chelsea Groton Bank Foundation and Dime Bank Foundation, supporting sponsors; Centreville Bank, Niantic Lions Club and Walter Camp Football Foundation, contributing sponsors; and Hearst Connecticut Media Group, iHeartRadio Connecticut, and NBC Connecticut and Telemundo Connecticut, media sponsors.

Special Olympics Unified Sports joins people with and without intellectual disabilities on the same team, inspired by a simple principle: training together and playing together is a quick path to friendship and understanding.

The Unified Sports Fall Festival is not only a celebration of athleticism and inclusion but a testament to the power of community and volunteerism. Participants will be supported by volunteers of all ages from the community and local organizations, companies and businesses.

Special Olympics Connecticut provides year-round sports training and competitions for more than 12,000 athletes of all ages with intellectual disabilities and Unified Sports partners — their teammates without disabilities. Through the joy of sport, the Special Olympics movement transforms lives and communities throughout the state and in 190 countries around the world by promoting good health and fitness and inspiring inclusion and respect for people of all abilities, on and off the playing field.

The partner sponsors are: Bozzuto's Inc., Connecticut Elks Association, Enterprise, ESPN, Eversource, The Hometown Foundation, Knights of Columbus, Law Enforcement Torch Run, NBC Connecticut and Telemundo Connecticut, Pratt & Whitney, Webster Bank, and WWE.

The year-round suppliers are: Adams Hometown Markets/IGA Hometown Supermarkets, Bozzuto's Inc., Coca-Cola Beverages Northeast, Foxwoods Resort Casino, Hearst Connecticut Media Group, iHeartRadio Connecticut, N&D Sports, NBC Connecticut and Telemundo Connecticut, Pepperidge Farm, Connecticut Judicial Branch Community Service, and WORX.

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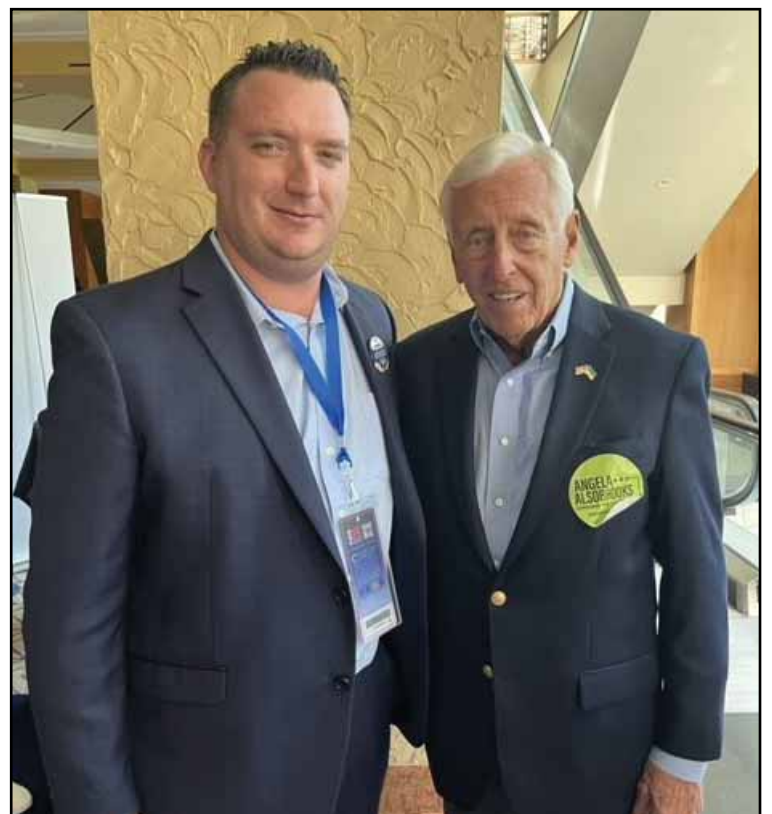




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Submitted Photos

## *Resident attends DNC*

City resident Patrick Perugino joined the 74-member Connecticut delegation in last month's Democratic National Convention in Chicago, eight of which were from the Third Congressional District. Originally from Plymouth where in 2009 he was elected to be the youngest elected official in the state of CT at the age of 18. He and his wife moved to West Haven eight years ago because "We love the city and the potential it has and we are always looking to get more involved in the community." He is shown with longtime friend former mayor of Hartford Luke Bronin, former Majority leader Steny Hoyer, and CNN host and anchor Caitlin Collins.



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Photo by Michael P. Walsh

Mayor Dorinda Borer, holding sunflowers, stands with members of the Ukrainian American community, including advocacy Chair Ann Salemme of the Ukrainian National Women's League of America Branch 108 of New Haven, third from left, and West Haven Fair Rent Commission Chairman Steven R. Mullins, fourth from left, in front of City Hall on Aug. 23 in observance of Ukrainian Independence Day.

# City Hall celebrates Ukrainian Independence

By Michael P. Walsh  
Special to the Voice

Mayor Dorinda Borer stood with members of the Ukrainian American community in front of City Hall on Aug. 23 in observance of Ukrainian Independence Day.

The public event marked the eve of Ukrainian independence and was organized by advocacy Chair Ann Salemme of the Ukrainian National Women's League of America Branch 108 of New Haven.

The ceremony included poignant remarks by Salemme, Borer, West Haven Fair Rent Commission Chairman Steven R. Mullins and Ukrainian American Veterans Post 33 Cmdr. Carl Harvey.

Since the start of the Russia-Ukraine war, which Russia launched on Feb. 24, 2022, a New Haven-based support network that includes the UAV post and St. Michael the Archangel Ukrainian Catholic Church has shipped \$8.2 million worth of donated humanitarian supplies to Ukraine's western city of Lviv to aid relief efforts, said Harvey, of Orange.

The ceremony also included the singing of "The Star-Spangled Banner" and "Prayer for Ukraine," a patriotic Ukrainian hymn, led by the gathering of more than two dozen Ukrainians, including a pair of young refugees holding up a blue-and-yellow Ukrainian flag and others holding up a "Glory to Ukraine, Glory to the Heroes" flag. The half-hour event culminated with Borer presenting Salemme, of West Haven, with a proclamation declaring Ukrainian Independence Day.

"West Haven stands united with Ukrainians in commemorating their independence by lighting the steps of City Hall in blue and yellow for the first time," said Borer, reading the proclamation.

"As Ukraine marks its 33rd anniversary of renewed independence, let us recommit ourselves to helping the Ukrainian nation to reclaim full sovereignty over its international borders and to remember the heroes who sacrificed their lives to ensure freedom and happiness for future generations," the mayor said.

Salemme followed by presenting Borer with a bouquet of sunflowers — a symbol of peace and resilience for Ukrainians — along with a Ukrainian flag and a certificate of appreciation.

Reading the certificate, Salemme said: "We present this certificate in recognition of your leadership and commitment to supporting Ukraine in its fight for sovereignty and peace. Issuing your proclamation and the lighting of City Hall in blue and yellow sends a powerful message of solidarity to the Ukrainian community in the West Haven area and beyond."



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Photos by Michael P. Walsh

## Starting off right!

Mayor Dorinda Borer and City Council Chairman Nicholas A. Pascale, D-at large, hand out a free backpack to Carrigan Intermediate School seventh grader Zuhaib Shah of Savin Rock Communities' Spring Heights Apartments on Glade Street on Aug. 23. Dozens of backpacks are donated by Laborers

Local Union 455's back-to-school backpack program at Savin Rock Communities' Spring Heights Apartments on Glade Street on Aug. 23. At least 100 backpacks and school supplies were distributed to K-12 students living at the public housing complex. From left, West Haven police crime prevention Sgt. Scott Allard, laborer Jorge Rivas of Laborers Local Union 455 of East Haven, police Sgt. Pat Buturla, West Haven Community House Development Director Alan Olenick, Local 455 laborer Mark Simeoli and office manager Georgette Richardson, Mayor Dorinda Borer, Community House Executive Director Amy Guay-Macfarlane and office/ERSEA assistant Jhoely Castillo, and Local 455 Business Manager and Secretary-Treasurer Andrew T. Inorio.

At least 100 backpacks were distributed days before school opened, part of a community outreach by a local union chapter.

Each containing a pencil bag with a ruler and a pencil sharpener, were donated by Laborers Local Union 455's back-to-school backpack program and were distributed to K-12 students living at the public housing complex. Each student also received a notebook, and a box of crayons donated by the East Haven-based local, along with coloring books, pencils, water bottles and T-shirts given out by Sgt. Pat Buturla and crime prevention Sgt. Scott Allard on behalf of the West Haven Police Department.

Other backpacks benefited the West Haven Community House's McKinney-Vento Homeless Students Case Management Program. The giveaway was organized by Andrew T. Inorio, the local's business manager and secretary-treasurer. Inorio was assisted by office manager Georgette Richardson and laborers Jorge Rivas and Mark Simeoli.

Other participants included Community House Executive Director Amy Guay-Macfarlane, Development Director Alan Olenick and office/ERSEA assistant Jhoely Castillo, as well as Kiara Davila, Savin Rock Communities' assistant resident services coordinator. The Community House officials also enrolled preschoolers in the social service agency's Head Start program at 227 Elm St. for the new school year.



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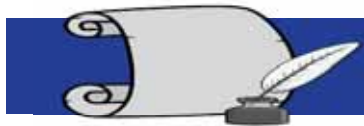
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# Historian's corner

By Dan Shine

Richard S. Gabrielle  
9/11/01

Tuesday, 9/11/01: We all remember where we were on that terrible morning. For The Boy, it began as an ordinary day at work. At 9:00 he was in a conference room in Orange, negotiating a contract with customers from Tennessee, when a middle manager burst in without knocking: "Turn on the television! Someone just flew a plane into the World Trade Center!"

Surprise turned to horror, as the little group watched the endless replays: Fiery videos

of the plane crashing into the tower again and again. And then, a second plane flew into the other Twin Tower. Ultimately, almost 3000 civilians were killed by the barbaric terrorist attack staged by Islamic extremists.

Meanwhile, for insurance broker and West Haven resident Richard Gabrielle, his ordinary workday just had begun on the 103rd floor of the South Tower of the WTC. At about that time, American Airlines Flight 11, and United Airlines Flight 175 left Logan International Airport in Bos-

ton; both planes were bound for Los Angeles, and each plane had five hijackers on board.

At 8:46, the first plane crashed into the North Tower, entering the tower intact. It appears that in response, evacuation of the South Tower began almost immediately.

At 9:02, the second plane crashed into the South Tower, between floors 77 and 85. Pieces of the plane exited the building and landed up to six blocks away. At that time, Richard Gabrielle was part of a group of 200 waiting for an express elevator to take them down from the 78th floor. Upon impact, the tower rocked back and forth, a deafening explosion occurred, walls and ceilings crumbled into a foot of debris on the floor, the air turned black and flames shot out of the elevator shafts.

Most people died instantly, and others suffered serious injuries. Richard Gabrielle was thrown against a wall, suffered two broken legs, and was pinned under a large marble slab that had been on a wall. His family was faced with the thought of him lying there by himself, in severe pain, knowing he had a terrible fear of dy-

ing in a fire.

Six months later, the tapes surfaced, known as "Lost Voices of Firefighters." From it, the family learned that firefighters arrived, mentioned his name by radio, and were working to provide aid and comfort to him and others when at 9:59 the South tower collapsed, killing all those who could not exit the building, and their rescuers as well.

Richard Gabrielle's brother George "Gabe" Gabrielle had previously planned to come north from his home in Florida and visit Richard on Sept. 13; when he finally was able to fly into New York, Gabe took his place in a long line of people giving DNA samples, in hopes of identifying the remains of his brother. They were never found.

There was a sad silence all around the area of southern Manhattan, as relatives of the victims searched the trauma centers in hopes of finding a loved one, even as others walked the streets vainly holding up photos of a family member who had vanished in the smoke and rubble on that day.

In the aftermath of it all, Gabe returned to his own job, only to find his desk covered with cards expressing sympathy, and numerous stuffed animals, meant to comfort him in his grief. And then there were telephone messages--no words, just the sounds of people crying on the other end of the line--for the words could not be spoken. And later, there followed memorials and observances of the loss of Richard Gabrielle and the thousands of others who were the victims of a senseless act of



Dan Shine is a columnist for the West Haven Voice, and local history buff

violence.

Richard Gabrielle had lived on Island Lane; today, not far away on the boardwalk, there stands a monument in his memory given to the city from the Rotary Club of West Haven.. His family is comforted by the knowledge that he did not die alone: He was being comforted by professionals and receiving care right up until the very end.

Richard's brother Gabe says, "I believe the event far overshadows the individual or even collective losses, which we as a country must understand there are people out there who would do this over and over, or worse, if they could...that they will never stop trying and we must not be naïve enough to think that this was a onetime occurrence."



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# City employees learn FOIA's ins and outs

By Michael P. Walsh  
Special to the Voice

City employees attended mandatory training on the state Freedom of Information Act at City Hall on Aug. 22.

Mayor Dorinda Borer required all West Haven employees, including public safety officials, to attend the training session in the Harriet C. North Community Room as part her administration's "commitment to fostering governmental transparency."

The training focused on the FOI Act, enacted by the General Assembly in 1975, and was led by Russell Blair, the director of education and communications for the state Freedom of Information Commission.

The FOI Act is "a series of laws that guarantee the public access to public records and public meetings of governmental bodies in Connecticut," according to the commission's website.

Blair said the commission settles disputes that arise when residents believe agencies are not following the law.

Borer greeted employees at the nearly 90-minute session, which included a Q&A, and called the training "significantly important" for the city's workforce.

"Residents are entitled to transparency from their government," the mayor said.

Employees of City Hall and satellite offices attended the training, with the next phase slated for elected officials and board and commission members, Borer said.

Blair discussed FOI Act basics, which he defined as "anything dealing with city business," as well as fulfilling an FOIA request.

The FOI Act grants public access to meetings and records



Photos by Michael P. Walsh



Above -- Mayor Dorinda Borer welcomes city employees to a mandatory training session on the Freedom of Information Act led by Russell Blair, the director of education and communications for the state Freedom of Information Commission, in the Harriet C. North Community Room at City Hall on Aug. 22. Left --City employees attend an interactive training session on the state Freedom of Information Act in the Harriet C. North Community Room at City Hall.

of public agencies, but he noted that "public agencies cannot be required to conduct re- search or produce documents that don't exist." The city corporation counsel's office handles all FOIA requests from the public.

Corporation Counsel Paul J.

Dorsi said the public should direct FOIA requests to paralegal John Sykes at sykes@westhaven-ct.gov.

Submitted Photo

## Thanking volunteers

The volunteers from the Sandy Point Bird Sanctuary Stewards and the Sandy Point Neighborhood Association have helped maintain the many gardens recently planted by the city of West Haven as part of the Beach Street Road Elevation Project. Pictured are: Front Row -- Bev Garretson, Jennifer Ciamei, Kathie Hebert, Deborah Sadenwater, Dave Killeen, and Georgianna Jette. Back Row -- Parks and Recreation Director Mark Paine, Tommy Green, Councilwoman-at-large Melissa Garthwait, Bob Fecto and Rich Hebert. Not pictured: Geri Leonard. The volunteers take a week-at-a-time to weed and water the new gardens and pick up trash in the parking lot. Many have volunteered for 10 years or more.





### Kidz Clothing Closet grand re-opening

Mayor Dorinda Borer, right, leads Kidz Clothing Closet owners Jesse Lee and Eva Powell, holding scissors, in a countdown before cutting the ribbon to mark the store's grand opening under new ownership at 17 Wagner Place on Aug. 2. With them are, from right, City Clerk John W. Lewis, West Haven Business Alliance owner Michelle Caprio, Lee's grandmother, House of Prophecies in Prayer Inc. Pastor Sadie Lee Miles, and friends. The 1,800-square-foot store offers gently used and new clothes for babies, kids and adults and is located in a plaza of small businesses near Sawmill Road, including Hi-Fashion Cleaners, Leslie Jewelers and Buck Stops Food Market. It offers supply items, toys and shoes for kids and adults. The store also offers giveaways for car seats and breastfeeding supplies. Lee and Powell have expanded the business to include an art studio in the rear of the store that offers art classes for children, adults and older people. With the expansion, the owners are in the process of rebranding the business as Jess-Eva Boutique. The store is open from 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday through Thursday and Saturday and from 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Friday. It is closed on Sunday.

### Assessment appeals to be heard

The Board of Assessment Appeals will meet in open session from 6-7:30 p.m. Sept. 16 in the assessor's office at City Hall, 355 Main St., to hear appeals of motor vehicle assessments on the 2023 grand list.

Any owner of a city-registered vehicle claiming an aggrieved assessment can issue an appeal at the hearing.

### Sight support group sets confabs

"Our Journey of Sight" is a low-vision/blind support group meeting at the West Haven Public Library, 300 Elm St on the third Friday of each month. The time is 10-noon. For more information, contact Richard Howard, (203) 214-7631.

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<p><b>ITINERARY:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Roundtrip Coach Transportation</li> <li>~ <u>8:30 AM Monday, November 4th:</u> Depart from Vertical Church Parking Lot (225 Meloy Road - West Haven)</li> <li>~ <u>12:00 PM, Wednesday, November 6th:</u> Depart from Atlantic City, NJ</li> <li>- 3 Day / 2 Night stay at the Resorts Casino Hotel; enjoy it's amenities like their indoor pool &amp; a cardio fitness room!</li> <li>- <b>2 Meals Credits</b>, up to \$20, at any meal outlet as well as <b>\$20 Slot Play!</b></li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>FOR MORE INFORMATION:</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Donna, Program Coordinator at the West Haven Senior Center 203-937-3507 201 Noble Street West Haven, CT 06516</p>
--	--

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# Paulie's Push comes through city

By Steven R. Mullins

Allington Volunteer Fire Association

On Labor Day morning, hundreds of residents participated in "Paulie's Push" as it went through West Haven on its way to Milford.

"Paulie's Push" is the inspiration of retired flight attendant Paul Veneto of Braintree, Massachusetts. Every year, Veneto pushes an airline beverage cart from Boston to the Freedom Tower in downtown Manhattan to commemorate the lives of the flight crews of American Airlines Flight Numbers 11 and 77 and United Airlines Flight Numbers 175 and 93, referring to them as the "first, first responders."

"I was very close to being assigned to one of those planes," said Veneto.

A procession led by West Haven Police, Center District and West Shore fire apparatus began at Kimberly Avenue at 9 a.m. The first stop was the 9-11 Memorial Mural on the corner of Washington Avenue and Elm Street, where Veneto was greeted by well-wishers.

The next stop was the Elm Street Fire Headquarters, where Veneto was greeted by firefighters, police and citizens, including retired Fire Department of New York (FDNY) Lt. Mickey Kross, who recently relocated to West Haven with his wife. Kross responded to the towers on 9-11 and made it out of the structure, while saving a life.

The cortège then snaked its way to Platt Avenue and Jones Hill Road, with hundreds of West Haven residents, many waving flags, cheering Veneto on and giving monetary donations to support his cause.

The West Haven portion of the route to lower Manhattan ended at the Baybrook Plaza on the West Haven-Milford city line.

Following lunch at Dive Bar, Veneto and his entourage of volunteers continued his journey through Milford. His for the day was to end at the Milford/Stratford line, rest overnight and get through Stratford, Bridgeport and Fairfield the next day.

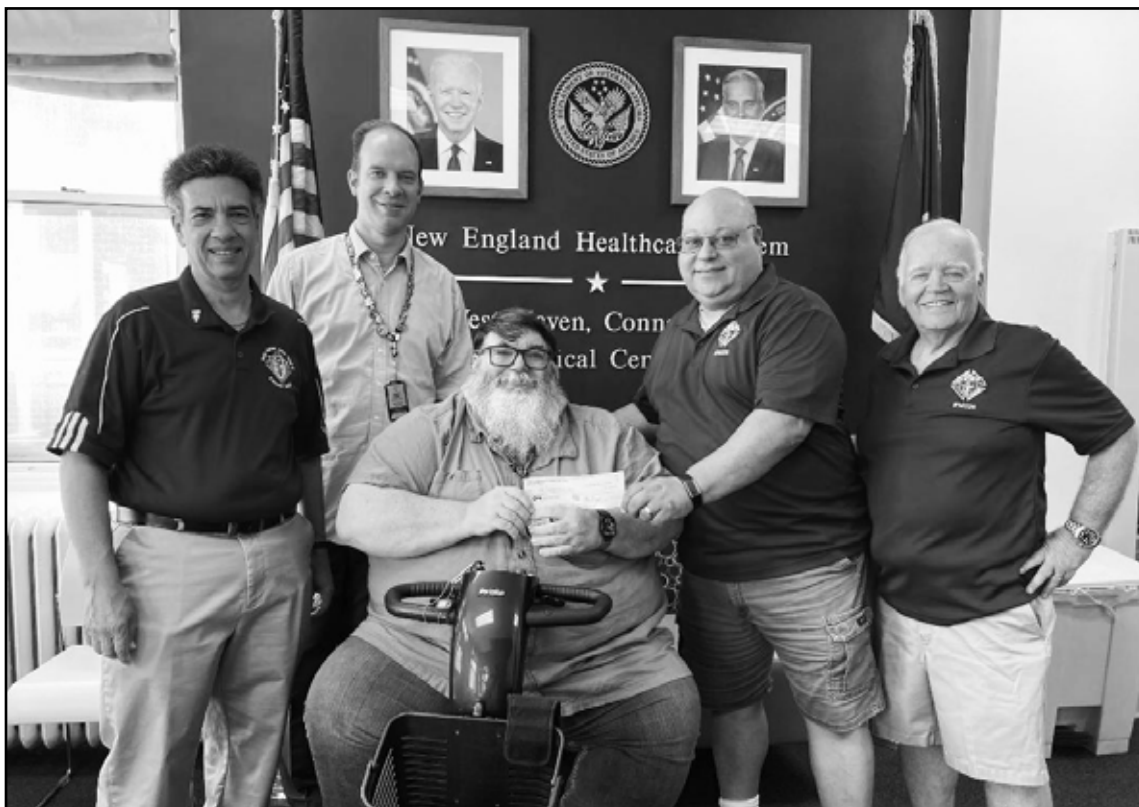
Veneto's pedestrian rendezvous began August 18th in Boston. He said that he covers roughly twelve miles a day on foot, with the assistance of first responders from each municipality. He plans to reach the Freedom Tower on Sept. 11.



Photos by Gary Donovan and Michelle Caprio



Top Paulie Veneto pushing down Elm Street. Above -- With an escort, he moves toward Milford on Platt Avenue. Left -- Veneto embraces retired Fire Department of New York Lt. Mickey Kross, who recently moved to West Haven. Kross was one of the first firefighters on the scene of the World Trade Center on Sept. 11, 2001. He made it out of one of the towers, while rescuing a woman. He was escorted up Platt Avenue.



Submitted Photo

## Aiding veterans

The Knights of Columbus St. John Paul II Council of West Haven recently presented a \$600 donation to the West Haven V.A. Veterans Resource Center in order to supply veterans with needed personal items. Pictured (L-R) are: Victor Liuzzo, Council Treasurer, Mike Lejeune, V.A. Volunteer Services, Mark Frazee, Chief of Center for Development & Civil Engagement, Abele Grillo, Council Grand Knight, Paul Bauer, Council Financial Secretary.



# My Two Cents

Continued from page 20

able. It has lost the idea of athletics as an extension of the classroom. Let us hope that never happens in secondary school play. There are lessons to learn, and ways to conduct oneself. Adolescents need that in a culture that is getting increasingly isolated.

Good luck ladies and gentlemen. Play hard, play fair, and represent your school and your community in the best conceivable way.

### West Haven Twilight League

One of West Haven's contributions to athletics in the greater New Haven area is the West Haven Twilight League. For those new to the city, or who never had paid much attention, WHTL completed its 92nd season. The league was formed on a park bench on the West Haven Green in 1933 and has been a summer baseball staple ever since. We were reminded of this over the last couple of weeks when the league announced its 60th annual Gold Bat Awards. Full transparency, this writer was a 2004 recipient of the award for his many years (35) as an umpire in the league. I have always had a fondness for the league and for the competition it offers local players.

In the 70s through the 2000s, WHTL was one of the premier leagues for collegiate players in the area. With the arrival of the New England Collegiate Baseball League, the Connecticut Collegiate Baseball League and others, the league is not getting the top-tier players it once did. But the competition is just as fierce and just as even as it always was.

While it began its existence at Noyes Field, Painter Park, the advent of metal bats made the old park a bit passe. That was too bad because many residents remember a summer night spent sitting on the benches or walking around enjoying the summer breezes. The new reality meant the league had to move to Quigley Stadium. The new venue, used since about 1980, offered bigger dimensions, but lights as well.

While things have changed for the league, it is an institution in the city, and one of the longest continuous senior baseball leagues in the country. Some say the longest.

Having something last for 92 seasons is quite a feat. It is due to the hard work of many individuals who want to see the institution continue. Best wishes to them as they celebrate the 60th Gold Bat -- and many more!

### Condolences to the Chambrelli Family

West Haven boasts many great families and many great "sports" families. Among them is the Chambrelli family, which has a long connection with baseball, in particular. The family suffered a setback recently with the death of George Chambrelli, Jr.

A great athlete in his own right in his younger days, Chambrelli was a coach, parent supporter, and all-around good guy when it came to helping leagues in the city. The last time I saw the paterfamilias was at Veterans Field last year watching a Pop Warner game and rooting for his grandson.

Always smiling and always having a good word, the elder Chambrelli was a family man who took pride in his children and his grandchildren. And he was never alone, wife Dorothy, who did a few stints as an elected official in town, was always by his side, and always cheering on the home team.

Weather it was a seat at Ken Strong Stadium, standing at the Edward L. Bennett Rink, or watching at Piurek Field or Quigley Stadium, one person you could always find watching with interest was George. He loved watching the local kids.

We offer our condolences to Dorothy, and the Chambrelli children, who have followed in dad's footsteps, cheering their kids on, and coaching and supporting local youth.

The legacy continues.



Photo by Todd Dandelske

## Getting ready!

**Bobby Severino battles for position in a scrimmage v. Coginchaug. Meanwhile, Ya'Hinus Mercer finds the hole for a gain versus the Yellow Jackets.**



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## King Crossword

**ACROSS**

1 Sch. supporters	36 Walking sticks	11 Dandies
5 White House monogram	40 Soap unit	13 Japanese noodle
8 Young cow	41 "Rhyme Pays" rapper	19 "— a Kick Out of You"
12 Stellar musician	42 Playwright Wilder	20 Knock
14 Hodgepodge	47 Stadium top	21 Latin 101 word
15 Soften	48 Statistical anomalies	22 Platter
16 Harvest	49 Wife of Geraint	23 Broadway rosters
17 Auction signal	50 To the — degree	25 Chicago suburb
18 Calif. NFL team	51 "Toodle-oo!"	26 Rhone city
20 Harmful gas		27 Harvard rival
23 Battering practice area		29 Ripped
24 "Lucky Jim" author	<b>DOWN</b>	31 Peaks (Abbr.)
25 With gusto	1 USMC rank	33 Oxidized
28 — de deux	2 Uncle (Sp.)	34 "Rats!"
29 Sports bar fixture	3 Prince Valiant's son	36 Poet Sandburg
30 Candied veggie	4 Shorthand pros	37 Conceal
32 Gulleets	5 Cobra feature	38 PC picture
34 Knucklehead	6 Away from NNE	39 Big rig
35 Grecian vessels	7 Freight weights	40 This and that
	8 Intersection	43 Grass shack
	9 Downwind	44 Chai, e.g.
	10 Tale teller	45 Leftover bit
		46 Code-breaking gp.

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**MAGIC MAZE • TAXING TERMS**

N V T Q O L I G D B Y W D T T  
N R P M K I F I D X B X N Y W  
U O D S Q X O M N A A E U K I  
E F I D B Z A X W T D U F S Q  
O L V S N L E T Y N E J E H F  
D C I A A M Y R E I W R R V T  
S S D F O V U P Q S P N E L K  
I H E C (EXEMPTIONS) F  
E C N G U D B X E D O C X A T  
Z I D L A E P P A Y W V X U S  
R Q S R I W X A T T A L F E P

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally. Unlisted clue hint: ADJUSTED GROSS —

Appeal	Excise tax	IRS	Tax code
Dependent	Exemptions	Luxury tax	Tax evasion
Dividends	Flat tax	Refund	Wages
e-file	Interest	Sin tax	

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## Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

		4			9		8	
6			1			7		
	5			8				6
9			6			8		
		2			7		9	
	7	3		2				4
2			5	4		3		
	3				8		6	
		9		7				8

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

**DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦♦♦**

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging  
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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## Answers to this week's puzzles

Solution time: 22 mins.

Answers

**King Crossword**

**TAXING TERMS**

1. EXEMPTIONS

**Weekly SUDOKU**

Answers

3	2	4	7	6	9	1	8	5
6	9	8	1	5	3	7	4	2
7	5	1	4	8	2	9	3	6
4	6	2	8	1	7	5	9	3
8	7	3	9	2	5	6	1	4
2	8	6	5	4	1	3	7	9
5	3	7	2	9	8	4	6	1
1	4	9	3	7	6	2	5	8

## Trivia test

by Fifi Rodriguez

- GEOGRAPHY: How many lakes are in the Great Lakes Basin?
- MOVIES: What is the little girl's last name in the film "Matilda"?
- TELEVISION: What is the name of the teacher on the animated kids' series "The Magic School Bus"?
- LITERATURE: In which historic period is Jack London's novel "Call of the Wild" set?
- U.S. CITIES: Which city's nickname is "City by the Bay"?
- ANATOMY: How much of the human body is made up of water?
- SCIENCE: What is heliology?
- HISTORY: Which world leader's birth name is Jorge Mario Bergoglio?
- ASTRONOMY: In what year did a U.S. astronaut land on the moon?
- ENTERTAINERS: Which famous actor who starred in "The Notebook" was once a member of "The Mickey Mouse Club"?

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Answers

- Five.
- Wormwood.
- Ms. Frizzle.
- 1890s Klondike Gold Rush.
- San Francisco, California.
- About 60%.
- Scientific study of the Sun.
- Pope Francis.
- 1969.
- Ryan Gosling.

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# Twilight League lists the winners of 60th Gold Bat

The West Haven Twilight League will hold its 60th annual Gold Bat Awards on Saturday, Sept. 28, at West River Hall, 37 Orlando St. Doors open at 1 p.m. with a luncheon buffet and awards starting promptly at 1:30 p.m.

League President Mike Torello, Commissioner Dan Gooley and the WHTL Board of Directors recently named this year's honorees. They include Gold Bat Award recipients Blake Barone, Kevin Bowerman, Albie Kissner, Sal Savo and Joe Smeraglino.

The league will present the Bob Moran Lifetime Achievement Award to Larry DeLeo. The Community Service Award will be presented to Maureen B. Lillis, MPH, Director of Health, City of West Haven.

Tickets are \$60 per person and can be obtained online at WHTL.org or by emailing your ticket request to rcdepew@comcast.net. Seating is limited, and we are hoping that many past Gold Bat Award recipients can attend or donate to the WHTL.

To celebrate the 60th anniversary of the Gold Bat Awards, the league is looking for old photos and news articles from the past. Contact Roland Depew, Gold Bat Awards Chairperson for the West Haven Twilight League Board of Directors. rcdepew@comcast.net.

## Wizards Swim Team readies to open year

The new season for the West Haven Wizards Swim Club begins Sept. 16 and registration is now open at [www.westhavenswimclub.org](http://www.westhavenswimclub.org). The West Haven Wizards Swim Club is a competitive team, dedicated to sportsmanship, teamwork, self-improvement and fun, and is committed to helping each swimmer reach their fullest potential in and out of the water. The West Haven Swim club is a co-educational swim team for boys and girls ages 5 and up. WHSC is an official USA Swimming Member Team and is a Member of the Yankee Swim League.

Swimmers will learn all four competitive strokes, starts and turns, and will compete in meets across the state.

For all new swimmers, tryouts will be Monday, Sept. 16, at 5:30 p.m., at the West Haven High School Pool. The first day of practices will be Sept 17. Any questions, feel free to reach out to Sean and Erin McCauley via email at [westhavenswimclub@outlook.com](mailto:westhavenswimclub@outlook.com).



Photo by Margaret Longo

## Girls summer basketball champions

The Red Team, the champions of the Department of Parks and Recreation's Girls Summer Fun Basketball League, show their trophies at the Veterans Memorial Park courts on Bull Hill Lane on Aug. 13. Front row, from left: Angelese Torres, Emily Palma, Leia Santana, Amare Bennett and Madison Kelly. Back row, from left: team assistant Ella McDonnel, Jaylena Torres, Lehanna Philogene, coach Juan Torres, Valery Guerra, Zoe Schenkle and Aria Cannon-Perry. The team defeated the previously unbeaten Gray Team in a 16-13 nail-biter to finish the season 9-1. The league, overseen by Park-Rec program coordinator Margaret Longo and court supervisor Desmond Lymon, just capped its 24th season.

**West Haven Art Crawl 2024!**  
**Wed Sept 18, 5-7pm**  
 rain date thurs 9/19

**Details:**

- 1) Pick up tote, glass & flyer on the WH Green
- 2) Start your crawl & work your way up/down Campbell Ave
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## My Two Cents

*By Bill Riccio, Jr.*

### High school athletics begins anew.

The beginning of the school year has an important dividend – high school athletics. Tuesday night, the fall season of the school year opened for several sports. The football season, the iconic fall sport, still has another week to go before the season kicks off on Sept. 12-14. The dividend is important, not only to the thousands of student-athletes that play on the courts, swim in the pool, or run up and down a field. It is a unifying link in many communities. West Haven ranks well in that category.

High school sports are an extension of the classroom in the lessons the various team participants learn. Many times, today, courts or playing fields are the only place youngsters learn these lessons. They include winning gracefully, losing with class, dealing with success, but more importantly, dealing with adversity, getting along with others even if you do not like some of your teammates, listening to authority figures like coaches and officials, and, finally, extending your own boundaries and finding out what you can accomplish.

In West Haven sports talk always includes the local high school and the games and teams they face. Talk to a parent or grandparent, aunt or uncle, and the talk with gravitate toward the recent exploits of the local teams, be they West Haven, Notre Dame, Sacred Heart Academy, Lauralton Hall, even Fairfield Prep or Career. The city has athletes in all these institutions and more.

But we said it is a unifying element in a community. That is as true today in West Haven as it was decades ago. We take pride in our athletes, and we take pride in those students who do not take part in athletic endeavors. But it is in athletics that unity comes because most people relate to it, even those who never donned a pair of spikes or cleats.

And there is another reason high school athletics are different: they represent the purest of competition. Those who participate represent their schools and their communities. They are looked up to by youngsters who play in youth leagues, who hope to be in their shoes someday. It is also a part of those who have played in past years. Many are fans now that their playing days are over, and they support those who don the school colors now. It is being part of something bigger than yourself.

Those who don the blue and white of West Haven, or the Green and Gold of Notre Dame, or the red and white of Sacred Heart are doing so for the love of the game, and the love of the competition. While many hope to go onto playing athletics in post-secondary institutions, the fact is for more than 90 percent of those who play in high school, their career ends with the final game as a senior.

Those who run onto the fields at local high schools, for example our West Haven Blue Devils this week are working hard to hone their skills, many knowing the final whistle, or buzzer come October or November will spell the end of their competing days.

College athletics, especially on the higher levels, has been tainted by money, transfer portals, and the idea that winning is the only result that is accept

See My Two Cents, page 17



Photo by Todd Dandelske



### Pre-season work!

The season is getting underway, and before the opening of the regular season, local teams took part in pre-season scrimmages. Above -- Matt Hunter goes up for a header versus Cuginchaug. Left -- Angel Magana clears the ball for the Westies. Below -- Nick Conlan scrambles for yardage in the Westies' scrimmage against East Haven.

